

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-57, without prejudice, and add new claims 58-86 so that the pending claims read as follows:

1-57. (Canceled)

58. (New) A system for allowing a retailer to control access to a computer network comprising:

a computer network operated by a network service provider;

a retailer authorized by said network service provider to allow wireless user access to said computer network, yet who is otherwise independent of said network service provider; and,

a user who, subject to conditions established by said retailer using access point communication equipment, is allowed wireless access to said computer network through said access point communication equipment.

59. (New) The system of claim 58 wherein said computer network is the Internet.

60. (New) The system of claim 58 wherein the conditions established by said retailer can include maximum session time, maximum data volume and/or payment requirements.

61. (New) The system of claim 58 wherein said user must obtain an access code from said retailer before being allowed access to said computer network.

62. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein said access code has one or more restrictions on use of the computer network associated with it.

63. (New) The system of claim 62 wherein the restrictions associated with the access code include maximum session time, maximum data volume and/or payment requirements.

64. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein said payment requirements include a rate per unit of time and/or per unit of data.

65. (New) The system of claim 64 wherein said rate information is associated with an access code provided to said user by said retailer.

66. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein said user is warned when said maximum session time or said maximum data volume is being approached.

67. (New) The system of 61 wherein said user must enter said retailer provided access code into his or her wireless device before access is provided to said computer network.

68. (New) A system for allowing a retailer to control access to a computer network with the assistance of a control server comprising:

a computer network operated by a network service provider;

a retailer authorized by said network service provider to allow wireless user access to said computer network, yet who is otherwise independent of said network service provider;

a control server to assist said retailer in establishing conditions to allow wireless access to said computer network;

a user who, subject to conditions established by said retailer using access point communication equipment and by said control server, is allowed wireless access to said computer network through said access point communication equipment.

69. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein said computer network allows said user to access the Internet.

70. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein said control server is operated by an entity different from both said retailer and said network service provider.

71. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein the conditions established by said retailer include maximum session time, maximum data volume and/or payment requirements.

72. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein said user must obtain an access code from said retailer before being allowed access to said computer network.

73. (New) The system of claim 72 wherein said control server provides said retailer with access codes for distribution to users.

74. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein said control server is capable of blocking user access to said computer network.

75. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein said retailer must initialize an account with said control server before allowing users to have wireless access to said computer network.

76. (New) The system of claim 72 wherein said access code has one or more restrictions on use of the computer network associated with it.

77. (New) The system of claim 76 wherein the restrictions associated with the access code include maximum session time, maximum data volume and/or payment requirements.

78. (New) The system of claim 72 wherein said access code may only be used once.

79. (New) The system of claim 68 wherein said control server is configured to collect information related to use of said access point communication equipment.

80. (New) The system of claim 79 wherein the control server software is configured to generate an invoice to the retailer based upon said collected information.

81. (New) Access point communication equipment programmed to allow a retailer to establish restrictions on a user's wireless access to a computer network operated by a network service provider independent of said retailer.

82. (New) The access point communication equipment of claim 81 wherein said computer network is the Internet.

83. (New) The access point communication equipment of claim 81 wherein said programming allows said retailer to establish a user's maximum session time, maximum data volume and/or impose payment requirements for use of said computer network.

84. (New) The access point communication equipment of claim 81 wherein said user must obtain an access code from said retailer and transmit said access code to said access point communication equipment before said user obtains access to said computer network through said access point communication equipment.

85. (New) The access point communication equipment of claim 84 wherein said access code has one or more restrictions on use of the computer network associated with it.

86. (New) The access point communication equipment of claim 85 wherein the restrictions associated with the access code include maximum session time, maximum data volume and/or payment requirements.